

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DROPOUT AMONG TRIBAL IN INDIA

STEEN PAGAN

RESEARCH SCHOLAR
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
JHELM HOSTEL, ROOM-116,
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY,
NEW DELHI-110067 (INDIA).

ABSTRACT: After more than six decades of independence, India has been struggling with numerous challenges, including tribal (8.6 percent of the total population) education which needs an urgent attention. Despite huge investment in education and numerous flagship programmes, high dropout rate still exists among tribal due to various reasons. This study conducted by adopting sample survey method and qualitative research with 69 sample of Kharia tribal dropout children, their parents, teachers and civil society members and has used Academic Mediation Theoretical perspective to explore the unnoticed socioeconomic and cultural background, institutional constraints on the educational achievements of tribal children in the state of Odisha. This study also looks into the role of civil society to bridge the educational gap among tribes in Odisha. This study found various causes and consequences of dropout among these tribes in elementary education such as school factors, home factors, social and cultural factors, economic factors, communication factors, language factors, illiteracy etc. Hence, the government has to do a lot more for the education of these tribes by adopting different measures such as appointment of qualified teachers, upgrading school facilities, more investment, proper monitoring of implemented flagship programmes, financial supports, proper communication facilities etc.

KEYWORDS: tribal education, dropout rate, elementary education, universalization of education, right to education and Kharia tribes.

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